

The Evening World.

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FILTHY PAPER MONEY.

WHY is the paper money now circulating in this section of the country the raggedest and filthiest ever seen?

It's a rare thing in New York these days to get any kind of a small denomination bill that is fit to be handled with anything but the tongs.

If used to be the rule that torn or dirty paper currency was either laundered or replaced.

Was the Federal Reserve Bank adopted a new policy of putting soiled, tattered bills back into circulation until they drop to pieces?

Dirty paper money has long been recognized as one of the most dangerous mediums for spreading disease.

There is enough filthy paper currency circulating in this city to-day to start a pestilence.

INCLUDE THE PUBLIC.

THE Meat Council of New York has been organized. Its announced purpose is to cut down overhead costs in the retailing of meats.

Retailers and representatives of meat-packing firms constitute the organization.

There is a field for such an organization. Certainly the public will approve any steps that may lower meat costs.

But would it not be desirable to have a representative of the Department of Markets in the council to represent the public? Perhaps the city can help the dealers.

If the Meat Council is what it purports to be, there could be no objection from the meat dealers. Indeed, a representative of the public would help insure the Meat Council against suspicion that it may be merely another trade organization with ostensibly laudable aims that serve to disguise the real purpose of price-fixing, market-rigging, unfair competition and conspiracy.

The Lockwood committee has discovered so many trade organizations with illegitimate aims that it behooves new associations to act with special care.

"Segregation" is a word we are likely to hear more of in financial news. The Southern Pacific's divorce from its oil properties is at least a variation in the fine art of paying fat profits to shareholders without permitting the payments to appear as big dividends.

The privilege of paying a small sum for a share in a new company known to be worth two or three times the price asked is a variety of meanness that will stimulate the salivary glands of cunning operators.

While the device, seems entirely legitimate and desirable in the case of Southern Pacific, "segregation" has possibilities in fields less regulated than railroads which will appeal to financial jugglers, and those on the "inside."

IN FAIRNESS TO THE HUDSON TRUST.

INJUSTICE was done the Hudson Trust Company of this city in a recent Evening World editorial commenting on testimony in the Board of Estimate's investigation of city contracts.

The editorial in question represented the Hudson Trust Company as having asked for the \$50,000 bonus which, it was testified, the contracting firm of Terry & Tench expected to pay, over and above interest, on the \$750,000 loan they were seeking to finance their contract with the city for the building of six piers on Staten Island.

The official stenographic report of the testimony before the Board of Estimate shows that Mr. Tench testified that he himself "arrived at and made" the \$50,000 offer, that the President of the Hudson Trust Company told him it would be necessary to pay out that sum in order to secure the loan, with the help of other banks, but that it was made "absolutely clear" to the witness that the \$50,000 "was not going to the Hudson Trust Company as such."

The Hudson Trust Company found itself unable to secure the amount needed and the loan was finally obtained in Buffalo, where a contract backed by the credit of the City of New York looked better to bankers than it did in Manhattan.

Mr. Tench's testimony in the official record offers no basis for the assertion that the Hudson Trust Company demanded the \$50,000 bonus or that it was to be the ultimate recipient of the money.

The Evening World gladly makes this correction in fairness to the Hudson Trust Company and in faithfulness to its own purpose of printing the truth.

A ONE-WAY BROADWAY.

COMMISSIONER HARRISS, who devised the block-signal system for regulating Fifth Avenue motor traffic, is reported to have turned his attention to Broadway.

The probability is that Broadway will be made a one-way street during the theatre rush hours.

The plan is certainly worth a trial.

Conditions in the neighborhood of Longacre Square have become well nigh intolerable of late. Time after time theatre patrons have been forced to the conclusion that it was quicker to get out of

automobiles and walk than to try to ride to their destinations.

When the Harriss plan of regulating Fifth Avenue traffic with lights was suggested it roused a storm of criticism. Results have converted even the most skeptical.

A one-way Broadway may not prove as advantageous as Commissioner Harriss anticipates. Too much detouring and inconvenience may result.

But give the plan a trial. If improvement is not manifest, it will be a simple matter to end the experiment and go back to the present inextricable congestion.

EVERY REASON FOR IT.

PRESIDENT WILSON, it is reported from the White House, will be glad to see the President-elect when Senator Harding returns from his vacation.

There is every reason why Senator Harding should accept the invitation. No good reason for refusing is apparent.

Senator Harding has pledged himself to take counsel with the best minds of the country. President Wilson has one of the best.

The coming session of Congress is highly important. It should mark a period of legislative achievement.

No man will exert greater influence on the Senate than President-elect Harding. This will apply after his prospective resignation as well as in the month he probably will serve.

It may be assumed that President Wilson and Senator Harding will not agree on all policies. But there is the possibility of agreement or compromise on some imperatively needed measures.

Critics frequently have complained that President Wilson has been a hard man for others to work with. If this is true, the offer of a meeting with his successor may indicate a change.

The possible benefits from such a meeting are too great to be disregarded. At the worst, a complete disagreement would do no more than clarify issues. At the best, the two men might be able to formulate a mutually satisfactory programme in what virtually amounts to an interregnum in Federal government.

THE BASIC FACTOR.

THE Lockwood committee has adduced enough evidence to prove to the public the charge that a building material ring has had a hard and fast strangle-hold on the market.

Nothing could be more damaging than the reluctance and refusal of those involved to testify.

Here is the most fundamental factor in the housing shortage. Under the conditions which have existed a carpenter could not afford to build a house for his own occupancy. There must be building materials before the labor element enters into the building problem.

It is to be hoped that the investigators will be able to get evidence of criminal conspiracy and punish the perpetrators. But even if this fails, the public will watch the building material market.

Unless prices come down and competition is restored there will be an insistent demand for legislation and prosecution which will be effective in breaking the ring.

Such an organization can work only in the dark. As soon as the light of publicity is turned on such a combination it is doomed.

FIRES IN CONVERTED HOUSES.

NO violation of the law has so far been found responsible for the loss of five lives in yesterday's fire in a 57th Street studio-apartment house.

The firemen seem to agree, however, that in the burned structure, which was a remodelled private dwelling, and in the twin studio building next door, the elimination of stairways between certain floors made it hard for occupants to get out quickly.

The District Attorney's Office states that "this is the first loss of life in the private houses which were converted under the law passed last year liberalizing the restrictions that formerly obtained at the turning of private homes into apartment houses."

Yesterday's fire is a warning that all such recent conversions should be thoroughly inspected and studied with a view to discovering whether the relaxed restrictions have increased the possibility of fire traps.

New York needs more homes. But that need must not sanction the multiplying of hastily converted apartment houses in which safety is the last thing considered.

The Fire and Building Departments should overlook no lesson that may be learned from this 57th Street fire.

TWICE OVERS.

"PICK up marbles with your toes, for they need exercise."—H. W. Ritter.

"I WANT to make the Manhattan an international opera house, where opera in any language and by any nationals will be welcomed."—Mrs. Oscar Hammerstein.

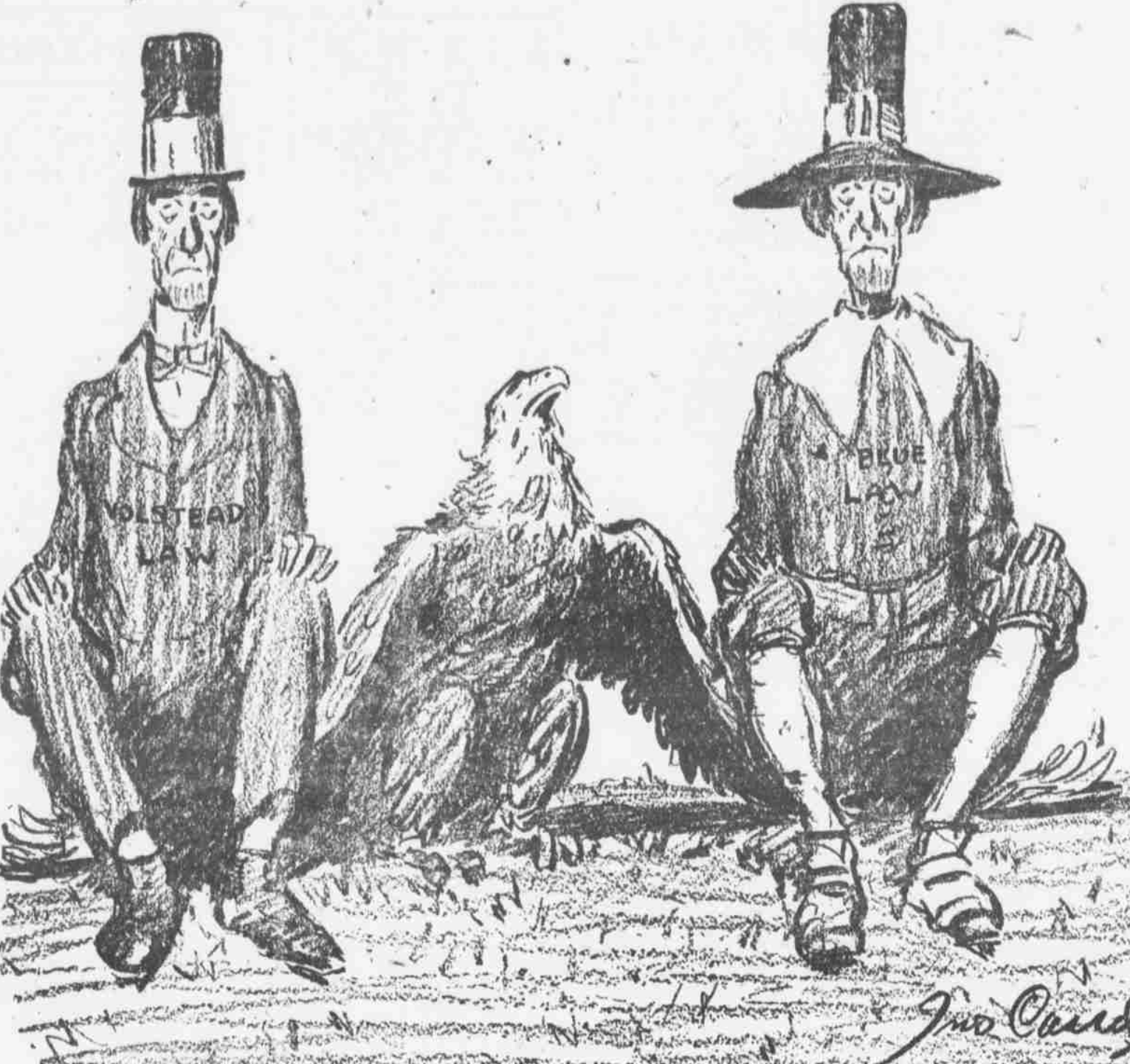
"HERE, you are a better mechanic than I am. You drive it."—Mayor Hylan.

"THE business grew by leaps and bounds under the influence of the Golden Rule and I never went on the farm."—Arthur Nash, of Cincinnati.

The Great Bird of Freedom

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(The New York Evening World).

By John Cassel



From Evening World Readers

What kind of letter do you find most readable? Isn't it the one that gives you the worth of a thousand words in a couple of hundred? There is fine mental exercise and a lot of satisfaction in trying to say much in a few words. Take time to be brief.

Sublimative From the Start?
To the Editor of The Evening World:
"Sublimative From the Start" you query.

Yours is an amusing policy. When anything of moral betterment is proposed one need not wait for your comment. You are sorted in advance, for you always run true to expectation.

I like recreation on Sunday—tennis or golf—but I refuse to get excited over the new agitation. If it seems best for American tradition and moral ideals, then I "favor going in." Why not get a little of the bile out of your sheet and give it a little exercise for living? I AM A BUCK.
New York, Nov. 28, 1920.

Cheer Up.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
Relative to Lonesome's letter of this evening, I would say he has my heartfelt sympathy. I have several friends and am lonesome and blue occasionally. What must it be like to be lonesome with no friends whatsoever?

Are you sure, Lonesome, that when you meet people you are congenial? Instead of looking for warm-hearted affection immediately, why not keep those friends you've met and let time heal all wounds. Generally one who is very distant, unsympathetic and indifferent at first proves to be one's best friend, as I have found from my own personal experience. I do not think being a stranger has anything to do with it, Lonesome. So cheer right up and smile a little further. GERTIE M. B.
Brooklyn, Nov. 28, 1920.

Junking the Statue.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
Good for The Evening World! I am glad to see that we have one newspaper in this city of ours which has at last brought out a good cartoon on the blue-law question.

Keep it up and make them stronger. Are the people of this country going to let these fanatics put another one over on them? They seem to be taking this vital question quite seriously. Come on, New Yorkers, bend in your protest, or you will wake up some fine day and find that the reformers have sold the Statue of Liberty to junk.

ONE OF THE COMMON SENSES.
New York, Nov. 24, 1920.

Ireland's Grievance.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
You ask, what is Ireland's present grievance? Chiefly the attempt of a foreign power to govern her against the will of her people. That the record of the British in Ireland has ever been and is to-day brutal to the last degree is but incidental. Invaders do not act from benevolent motives and their methods are seldom humane.

But if an alien Government were to make the lot of every Irishman a veritable Paradise on earth the denial of freedom would still constitute the blackest crime which a powerful nation could perpetrate against a weaker. Lord Grey speaks with no authority.

ly. We all know why the Home Rule Bill, fairly passed years ago, is not enforced. In our country the recently defeated Democrats are not purchasing ammunition in Germany to make war on Washington. The majority rules. Protestant employees of the United States Steel Corporation are not shooting their Catholic brethren or denying them the right to work. Yet you are so solicitous about these impertinent bigots! Let them live in Ireland if they want to, and by all means grant them all the privileges they would have if living here, which would not include vetoing the will of the majority or shooting those who happen to belong to a different faith.

Geographically Ireland is rather close to England—and has small reason to be thankful for it. France is still nearer, and by the way, Canada is rather close to the United States. JOHN J. TOBIN.
New York, Nov. 28, 1920.

The Hippopotamus.

To settle an argument, could you please tell which has the wider jaws, the alligator or the hippopotamus?
NORMAN MERRILL.

An Anti-Blue-Law League.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
I will submit a pertinent inquiry, viz.: Why has no "reformer" created a "league" to combat murder, robbery and other constantly increasing major criminal operations? Is it only innocent, harmless amusements the abolition of which appeals?

The situation may be briefly summarized. Once snapping, yapping Scotch collie can, and down, compel obedience from a thousand sheep, driving the flock here and there at will, as the impulse seizes. The sheep are not organized. And one hundred thousand reformers, in action cohesive and perfect in synchronizing function, are to drive one hundred million and more supposedly free Americans into legal obedience to their intolerant will.

The great, placid body of sheep, then—the general public—are to consent to be driven by a mere handful of yapping collies. The situation is worthy serious reflection by every clear-minded American man and woman.

Are we all to sit supinely and sacrifice the hitherto sacred principles of freedom of action in private life upon which the very foundations of this republic rest? Are we, as a whole, to yield our most vital rights to happiness in cringing, sallow surrender? Is there a public-spirited citizen who will create an "Anti-Reform" League to fight fire with fire? Are the "reformers" to have a clever monopoly on "leagues" and "alliances"? A smoothly functioning organization is indispensably essential to tangible results—and the public has nothing! Let an "Anti-Reform" League be started. If the vast majority cares to avoid early domination by Puritanical grandiosity, a moderate fee be charged. I will be first to join, and

UNCOMMON SENSE

By John Blake

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DON'T BLAME THE CITY.

The mother or father who fears to let a son go to a big city thinks that there is peril in the city. But the peril is really in the boy.

To all comers the city gives what we call an even break. To prosper there is harder because there is more competition. To stand out among your fellows is harder, because there are more people already standing out than in the village.

To succumb to temptation is perhaps easier, for temptations are always in direct proportion to the population.

But the boy who can only prosper in a village is a pretty poor sort of a boy. And if he can lift his head above the common level in no place except where there are a few hundred individuals you may be sure that his head is not worth lifting.

As to temptation, unless he can meet it and resist it, he is always in peril, whether he dwell in New York or Painted Post. For sooner or later he will meet with temptation even in the smallest of communities, and if he has not learned to put it behind him he will be helpless before it when it comes.

True, some men do better in small towns than large ones. Usually for early training the small town has advantages over the city. The boy is brought into closer contact with people and is better able to study human nature.

But if he wants to try himself out in the city it is a foolish parent that will deny him the privilege. Most of the successful men in the United States are country boys who have early in life come to one of another of the great cities to make their livings.

If the cities were destructive and bad, and tended to hold down struggling genius and crush out budding talent, these men never would have succeeded. The fact that they did succeed, and succeeded on a far greater scale than would have been possible in the small town, is certainly a point in the city's favor.

If you think you have talent, and are willing to do the terrific amount of work that is necessary to develop it, don't be afraid of a great city.

It will crush you if you are a weakling far quicker than the village would crush you. But if you really have the talent, plus industry and willingness to fight, its rewards will be far greater.

The thing that makes a man a success or a failure is not the city or the village. It is his own conscience and his own soul. If these are of the right kind of stuff the surroundings in which they are placed will make but little difference.

the steady tread of twenty million others will thunder along in rapid sequence.

And the utter disfigurement of the hundred thousand "reformers" will be complete and thorough! Let us drive the agitators, stirring up dissension and seeking to destroy innocent pleasures in these ominous days of labor unrest and general high tension, back into the verdant obscurity from whence they sprang! Otherwise we will deserve—and more important, we will GET, in the parlance of the day, "A.I.J." that is coming to us!

STANWOOD LEE HENDERSON,
184 Broadway, New York, Nov. 26, 1920.

Words From the Wise.

God, made both tears and laughter, and both for kind purposes; for as laughter enables mirth and surprise to breathe freely so tears enable sorrow to vent itself patiently. Tears hinder sorrow from becoming deep despair and madness.

Lelah Hunt.

Silence is deep as Eternity, speech as shallow as Time.
Carlyle.

The warriors of the Bible

By Rev. Thomas B. C. O'Leary

Copyright, 1920, by Rev. Thomas B. C. O'Leary

No. 11—Jonathan, the Friend of David.

Jonathan, whose memory will ever "smell sweet and blossom in the dust," was one of the finest-looking men of his time. He was as handsome as Alcibiades, and possessed along with his outward beauty the fine moral principle to which the handsome Greek was a total stranger. In line with the poet's declaration that the "loving are the daring," we find that Jonathan's gentleness of soul carried along with it the manliness and courage of the bravest of the brave.

Being the Crown Prince of the House of Israel, Jonathan was not given the opportunity in war that he would otherwise have possessed, but even with this great handicap upon him he managed upon more than one occasion to show his mettle.

Some idea of what Jonathan was capable of doing in the line of warlike achievement may be gained from the interesting story given in I Samuel, xiv, 1-17.

While the Philistines were still strong in the country one of their officers with a considerable force was stationed at Gidon, near by the point where Jonathan stood with one thousand men.

In a moment of youthful daring Jonathan slew this officer, which was taken as a signal for a general revolt of the Israelites. The Philistines came back at them with renewed vigor and the oppression became greater than ever. From this oppression Jonathan resolved to be the first to free his people, inasmuch as he had been the first to bring it on.

Without communicating his project to any one except his armor-bearer, Jonathan sallied forth from Gidon to attack the garrison of the Philistines, on the other side of the steep defile of Michmash. The suddenness and vigor of the assault threw the garrison into a panic, the panic spread like wildfire, and the Philistines were routed "horse, foot and dragoon." It was a splendid piece of work, and stamps the victor as a man who had the opportunity been given him, would most assuredly have written his name high up in the list of military heroes.

Jonathan was killed along with his two brothers and his father, King Saul, at the famous battle of Gidon. It was upon receiving the news of Jonathan's death that David uttered out of his broken heart the immortal eulogy, "If Saul and his sons were the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan is slain upon thy high places. I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan; how goodly wert thou, how brave! Thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women."

David and Jonathan. The Miracle of Friendship. The one classic instance of the devotion of Man to Man. "It was the miracle of the death of Saul," Jonathan forgot his pride and David his ambition. In the kingdom of love there was no disparity between the King's son and the shepherd boy."

Ten-Minute Studies of New York City Government

By Willis Brooks Hawkins.

This is the forty-fifth article in a series entitled "Ten-Minute Studies of the Administrative and Legislative Officers and Boards of the New York City Government."

TENEMENT HOUSE DEPARTMENT.

This department is charged with the duty of enforcing the Tenement House Law, which defines a tenement as any house or part of a house occupied or arranged to be occupied by three or more families living independently of each other and doing their own cooking on the premises.

This jurisdiction extends over the construction (as to light, ventilation, fire escapes, fire escapes, fire escapes and private and the alteration of tenement houses, as well as over their occupancy. No new tenement house can be built, no house can be remodelled into tenement use, no alteration can be made in a tenement house until the plans and specifications of such work have been examined by the department and approved. Before the completion of the work of construction and alteration, departmental inspectors visit the premises to see that the work is in accordance with the plans.

As a means of control over the occupancy of buildings as tenement houses, the department makes periodic inspections, or special inspections on complaint, to determine their sanitary condition. If these inspections reveal violations of the law, notices are sent to the owners to remedy the conditions. Such conditions may include inadequate facilities for escape in case of fire, inadequate lighting, inadequate water supply, and improper sanitary equipment. Periodic re-inspections are made to determine what action has been taken on pending violations; and if the department can enforce its orders in no other way, the owner is prosecuted.

The department also inspects all dwellings to make sure that none of them has been illegally converted into a tenement house. If a building is found to have been so converted as to be dangerous to life or health, the department has power to order it vacated and closed as a public nuisance.

Tenement houses erected before the enactment of the Tenement House Law of 1901 are called "old law tenements," those erected since that time being called "new law tenements." The requirements of the two kinds of tenements differ according to the laws under which they were erected.

The Tenement House Commissioner is appointed by the Mayor. His salary is \$7,500 a year. The present incumbent is Frank Mann of No. 87 Grove Street, Brooklyn. John P. Finerty is First Deputy Commissioner. Their offices are on the nineteenth floor of the Municipal Building.